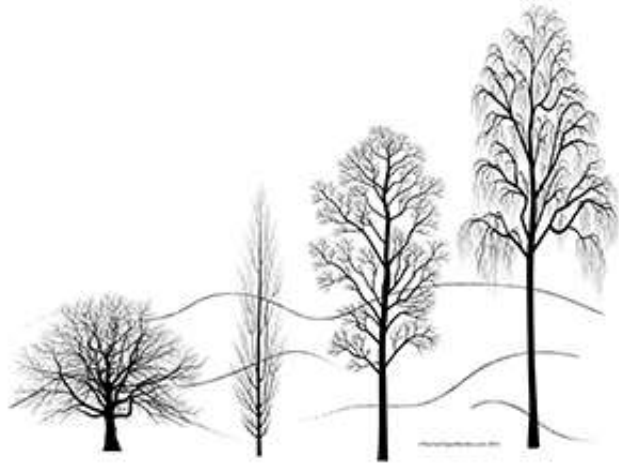


Advance notice - A memorial service will be held in our church for Robin Holdaway Friday July 10 at 1.30pm.



I realise there's something incredibly honest about trees in winter - how they are experts at letting things go.
Jeffrey McDaniel

PRESBYTER: Rev Shelley Walker Ph. 07 8714453

Cell 0276948779 Email revshelleynz@gmail.com

PARISH STEWARDS

Nynke Piebenga 07 871 9595

Colin Pinkerton 07 8713554

CHURCH OFFICE 07 871 5376

Te Awamutu Methodist Church Website

http://www.methodist.org.nz/find_us/waikato/waiariki/te_awamutu

or just search 'Te Awamutu Methodist Church'

**Notices for next Sunday's bulletin to Judith please
Phone 07 870 5512 or email briceandjudith@hotmail.com**

Weekly Newsletter – 14th June 2020

**METHODIST PARISH OF
TE AWAMUTU, PIRONGIA, OTOROHANGA**

Church address: 261 Bank Street, Te Awamutu



This **winter poem/prayer** includes some thoughts that seem particularly pertinent to our emerging from lockdown -

Let us huddle together this morning,
our community a place of warmth in our lives
as we share the flame of hope and connection.
Let us allow the frost of isolation and bitterness to melt away
as we open ourselves to a sense of peace and spirit.
We extend our thoughts to all those who are cold this morning,
lacking shelter or love to keep them warm.
Let us wrap our prayers around them and each other like scarves,
and wish each other safe journeys through the storm.
May we be insulated from fear as the earth is insulated by the ice,
And, like bulbs, may we continue to grow and open in-side, despite
the cold,
Ready for the spring, to stretch and grow towards a just new world.
Amen

-www.revkatwilkinson.co

May this be the experience for others and for ourselves.

Lynn

Lectionary Readings for this Sunday:

Genesis 18: 1 - 15 (21: 1 - 7) Sarah expresses scepticism about the Lord's unnatural promise. But God responds, "Is anything too difficult for the Lord?" Sarah conceives and Isaac is born.

Psalms 116: 1 - 2, 12 - 19 The psalmist explains why he loves God, then repeatedly calls on the name of the Lord.

Romans 5: 1 - 8 Paul declares that suffering - putting in the miles - really does produce endurance. The resulting new and renewed character produces hope.

Matthew 9: 35 - 10: 8 (9 - 23) Jesus does not try to get away from the crowds but instead declares that "the harvest is plentiful" and sends forth his disciples.

The service next Sunday June 21 10am will be led by Rev Shelley. Today's is the last day that the Worship from Home resource will be sent out. From next Sunday the service booklet will be emailed out each week.

Parish Council is this Tuesday June 16 at 2pm in the lounge.



Pray for others -

- for the ones we know who are recovering from surgery
- for our Parish Council as they meet this week and make decisions about moving forward and reaching out as a church in this post-pandemic time
- continuing prayer for our members who remain locked down in resthomes.



We can sing today! June's hymn playing was magnificent as always last week and we did some great humming. I felt a bit like Winnie the Pooh! But I found that I focussed perhaps a little more on the words.

Sing it out today!

Lynn

Food for thought, prayer and challenge -

At the Synod meeting recently, which was held via Zoom, Rev Bob Franklyn led the devotions. Bob is the Presbyter from Matamata where the meeting had been originally scheduled to be held. Bob said that for the past three months, during the Covid-19 lockdown, our concept of church had been challenged. Today there are Christ-centred communities springing up in many different parts of the world. These communities give Fresh Expressions to Christianity to those who may never go inside a church by forming relationships and giving help as needed. The Fresh Expressions movement is about finding where God is already at work in the Community and joining Him there without any expectation that people will come to traditional church services. The church is a living organism. We cannot continue to live in our own little bubbles but must go out into our communities and into the future.

**Waikato-Waiariki Methodist Synod invites
Lay Preachers, Presbyters, Kaikarakia, Mini-a-iwi
and anyone interested, from any denomination, or none, to**

Kia ora:

Bringing worship to life and life to worship

Saturday 27 June 2020

10am to 2.30pm

(9.30am registration and morning tea)

at Te Rahui Centre, 294 River Road, Hamilton

From the beginning: Creating a worship service from scratch
with Rev Dr Susan Thompson, Ngaire Southon and Viv Whimster

Kia inoi tatou - Let us pray, using Te Reo in worship
with Rev Keita Hotere

Please bring \$10, your own lunch (soup will be supplied)

Bible and notebook

Registration is essential - to Ngaire Southon, 07 5787119

ngaire@southon.net by 22 June